







During the past 200 years great changes have taken place in the United States. In 1770 the thirteen original states were colonies of Great Britain. The majority of the people lived on the farm or in small communities. People raised the food they needed to eat. Most houses were made of lumber. Travel was very slow. Large families were a necessity since children were needed to help on the farm.

Homes in America of 1770 had few of the conveniences we enjoy today. The mother did the cooking over an open fire in the fire place. Whale oil lamps or candles were used for lighting. Mother used a wash pot and tub to do the washing. A flat iron was used to press the clothes. Many families wore clothes not ironed. Families had to preserve enough food during the summer to last until the next year.

People shared their labor with each other. A popular event was the work social. People would gather to help one another and visit at the same time. A quilting bee was a popular work social with the women. Mrs. Jones would need extra quilts for her family during the winter